

The Indian Entrepreneur Prayer

by Ruth M. Burleigh

Oh, Creator, hear our humble pleas,
We gather together to see, learn and please
We gather to learn, speak, and develop
We gather to listen and help one another.

We ask that you listen and bless all of us
We ask that you open your heart amongst us
We ask that you keep our minds clear and clean
We ask that you keep our spirits kind, never mean.

We ask that you guide us and teach us of love
We ask that you help us from wisdom above
We ask that the gathering will bring out our best
To help us meet deadlines, the budgets and test.

We ask that you bring out the depth of our strength
Remind us the lessons taught on the great plains
That made our ancestors both proud and so strong
That gave them the strength to sing powerful songs.

To know that within us lies
Wisdom and strength
The gifts of the old ways,
The skills of these days.
So that we may be leaders and succeed in our goals
To make the sunshine, the young glad, the old bold.

We ask all these things of you now on this day
To keep us all humble, to keep us all brave
For like our ancestors, we face unknown fate
Yet with you as our guide, we'll face our mistakes.

For we know that we travel on paths yet to make
We know that we'll learn and we will make mistakes
But keep us determined to learn skills today
That will help our children, that will bring back old ways.

That keep our people once proud and so strong
The day of the Indian's return comes along
When no longer a sad face, a bankruptcy fate
But strength in our future, and a new human race.

For as the circle of life travels continuously on
We know of no other who guides us along
With these humble offerings of our time and our skills.
We ask that you now bless us, and strengthen our wills.